

New York, Nov. 23.
1863.



My dear Friend

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I have received
and gratefully acknowledge the
kind invitation to your grand
intellectual and moral ban-
quet in Philadelphia on the 3d
& 4th days of December. I anticipate
muchal duties and cares just
that week, incident to the opening
of my Church, and sorely fear I
shall miss the treat; not, however,
if I can help it. For happily to be
there, on an occasion so saturated
with noble memories, earnest thoughts
and ^{pure} hopes, so beautiful in
sentiment and aspiration, would
be an era in one's experience. Never

Was festival so truly a festival
with fine old religious Luke - a sta-
tion of joy dedicated to the gods -
For the spirit of Justice, Truth and
Love, the primordial Trinity; while
itself preside - innumerable thousands
of the adorned with ^{rise} all in ranks
around the hall - a clout of mit-
tles, too numerous for admission,
of spirits filled any points of
space - And the Angels, too, of the
great adorning with glorify the
house from floor to ceiling. Only
let in silence amidst such an
assembly, and let the tears of gra-
titude flow from ^{from} one's eyes and
be a sacramental observance, in
and with all that to hear the
speaking, and in all that again

to press the hands that have
wrought at this great task for
thirty years, and to look into
the faces in which so ^{good} a
moral triumph is reflected. 'Well,
I don't try to say what that would
be, but only try to think it will
be mine to enjoy in actual pos-
session and in long memory.

You know, dear Mr. Garrison,
that I shall be with you
at any date, even though my
presence bodily may be less.
You know that I am always
with you in your work and in
your prayers. You know that I
am ever gratefully yours,

O. P. Goodman Ham.

Rev. A. B. Frothingham

New York.

Nov. 23, 1863.